

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented rack equipment management information coordination method comprising:

formulating a rack equipment management plan that includes equipment management and usage policies and establishes an association between a rack equipment performance action and a trigger event, said formulating performed using a computer to analyze said equipment management and usage policies, wherein at least a portion of said equipment management and usage policies are automatically received by said computer from a customer database, and wherein said rack equipment management plan is a plan for managing rack equipment operating characteristics while said rack equipment is in operation;

automatically detecting and retrieving, with said computer, rack equipment description information from at least one component comprising said rack equipment, wherein said rack equipment descriptive information comprises an identification of equipment type of said at least one component; and

storing, with said computer, said rack equipment description information and said rack equipment management plan.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer-implemented rack equipment information coordination method of Claim 1 further comprising using said computer for retrieving possible performance level settings from rack equipment.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer-implemented rack equipment information coordination method of Claim 2 wherein said possible performance level settings from rack equipment include wattage settings.

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer-implemented rack equipment information coordination method of Claim 1 wherein said rack equipment management plan includes management objective guidelines.
5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer-implemented rack equipment information coordination method of Claim 1 wherein said rack equipment management plan includes power and thermal budget guidelines.
6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer-implemented rack equipment information coordination method of Claim 1 wherein formulating said rack equipment management plan further comprises using said computer for interfacing with a service agreement application.
7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer-implemented rack equipment information coordination method of Claim 1 further comprising using said computer for integrating said rack equipment description information with said rack equipment management plan.
8. (Currently Amended) A rack equipment information coordination system comprising:
 - an equipment description information repository for tracking equipment description information, wherein said equipment descriptive information comprises an identification of equipment type of at least one component of a rack of equipment, said equipment description information comprising physical bulk storage coupled with a computer;
 - a management plan information repository for tracking rack equipment management plan information, said management plan information repository comprising a second physical bulk storage coupled with said computer, wherein said rack equipment management plan information is used for managing rack equipment while said rack equipment is in operation and is configured for directing a change in operating characteristics of said rack equipment; [[and]]
 - a coordination component for coordinating said equipment description information and said rack equipment management plan information, said coordination component implemented by a processor of said computer which is programmed with instructions for performing said coordinating; and

a repository management component that controls automatic retrieval of said equipment description information and said management plan information and also controls population of said equipment description information into said equipment description information and population of said management plan information into said management plan information repository, said repository management component implemented by said processor of said computer which is programmed with instructions for performing said automatic retrieval and said population.

9. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein said equipment description information repository stores information associated with features and characteristics of rack equipment and support equipment.
10. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein said equipment description information repository stores information indicating possible operation settings of rack equipment.
11. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein said equipment description information repository stores information indicating rack equipment is capable of operating at varying power levels and corresponding heat generated at each level.
12. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein said equipment description information repository stores performance level information.
13. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein said management plan information repository tracks management policy and guideline information associated with a rack equipment management plan.
14. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein policy information can provide a correlation between a trigger event and a rack equipment management objective.

15. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 wherein said coordination component provides a correlation between policies associated with a particular client and rack equipment implementing the client's applications.

16. (Original) A rack equipment information coordination system of Claim 8 further comprising:

a repository management component for managing information flow to and from said equipment description information repository and said management plan information repository; and

a communication link for communicating information to and from said repository management component.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a means for controlling automatic retrieval of rack equipment related information from at least one component comprising said rack equipment, wherein said rack equipment related information comprises rack equipment description information regarding at least said at least one component and includes an identification of equipment type of said at least one component of a rack of equipment;

a means for communicating said rack equipment related information for managing rack equipment while said rack equipment is in operation;

a means for storing said rack equipment related information and instructions for implementing rack equipment information coordination; and

a means for processing information and instructions, wherein said means for processing information and instructions is configured for processing said instructions and for managing operating characteristics of said rack equipment, and is configured for processing information for managing said rack equipment information.

18. (Original) A computer system of Claim 17 further comprising:

~~a rack equipment description retrieval module for controlling automatic retrieval of rack equipment description information;~~

a rack equipment management plan module for directing establishment of a rack equipment management plan;

a rack equipment correlation module for providing correlation instructions to a correlation component; and

an instruction saving module for directing rack equipment description information and the rack equipment management plan information saving operations.

19. (Original) A computer system of Claim 18 wherein said rack equipment management plan module facilitates determination of rack equipment management objectives.

20. (Original) A computer system of Claim 18 wherein said rack equipment management information coordination is utilized to support a variety of rack equipment management objectives.